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MIDNIGHT COLIC.

CAST OF CHARACTERS.

JEREMIAH TOMPKINS,.....*Very sleepy.*
DR. PILLBAGS,.....*Village physician.*
SARAH JANE TOMPKINS,.....*With an attack of colic.*

SCENE—Bed Chamber—Midnight.

Time of Performance—About 20 minutes.

NOTE.—The character of Mrs. Tompkins can be personated by a male.

STAGE DIRECTIONS.

R., means Right; L., Left; R. H., Right Hand; L. H., Left Hand; C., Centre; S. E.; [2d E.,] Second Entrance; U. E., Upper Entrance; M. D., Middle Door; F., the Flat D. F., Door in Flat; R. C., Right of Centre; L. C., Left of Centre.

R. R. C. C. L. C. L.

*** The reader is supposed to be upon the stage facing the audience.

Midnight Colic.

SCENE.—Bed, with curtain, at back of stage, R. *Chairs and stand at* L.; *candle and matches on stand; telephone at head of bed.* TOMPKINS *and* MRS. TOMPKINS *discovered in bed—lights down.*

Mrs. Tompkins. (*sits up in bed, groaning*) O-o-o-o-h! O-o-o-o-h! I'm so sick! O-o-o-h! What shall I do? Jeremiah will be angry if I disturb him. O-o-o-o-h! I'm so sick! Well, let him be angry; I'll have to wake him! (*calls*) Jeremiah! Jeremiah! (*shakes him*) Jeremiah! O-o-o-h! I'm so sick! (*calls*) Jeremiah! If I was dying I don't believe he would wake up. O-o-o-h! (*shakes him*) Jeremiah! (*very loud*) Jeremiah!

Tompkins. (*waking with a yawn*) Heard burglars down stairs, I suppose?

Mrs. T. (*groans*) Jeremiah Tompkins, I'm sick! Oh! I'm so sick!

Tomp. What! and right here in the middle of the night?

Mrs. T. Yes, and very sick, too! (*groans*) I've got a billious attack.

Tomp. Is that all? I've had a thousand of 'em and they don't amount to shucks. Go to sleep and you'll be all right in the morning.

Mrs. T. Jeremiah, I don't want to frighten you, but I must have help at once. (*groans*) I'm so sick! You must get right up and do something for me. (*groans*

Tomp. Eh! Get up! Have I got to get up?

Mrs. T. You must. O-o-o-o-h!

Tomp. That's just like you. If you feel an ache or pain I must be aroused and hustled out of bed! Why didn't you have your colic in the afternoon?

Mrs. T. O-o-o-o-h! O-o-o-o-h! I'm so sick! Get me something as quick as you can-n! O-o-o-o-h!

TOMPKINS *jumps out of bed, dresses back of curtain; falls over chairs; finally gets matches and lights candle; yawns.*

Tomp. Now, what do you want me to get?

Mrs. T. Get the Jamaica ginger first——

Tomp. And what will I get next?

Mrs. T. (*groans*) Oh, get the ginger! It's in the china closet down stairs.

Tomp. Yes, of course it is! You hadn't sense enough to bring it up stairs where it would be handy if we wanted it. (*exit,* L. 2 E.

Is heard rattling around among dishes and pans. Enters, L. 2. E.

—Is it in a paper or box?

Mrs. T. It's in a bottle. I thought you knew what Jamaica ginger was. (*groans*

Tomp. And perhaps I do. Perhaps I wasn't running a ginger farm in Jamaica, when you were in the a, b, c, class at school. (*exit,* L. 2. E.

Re-enter, with bottle, L. 2. E.

—Here's your confounded old ginger bottle! Take it and stop that everlasting groaning. I want to get some sleep to-night. (*blows out candle; falls over chair*) Confound that chair! it's always stuck in the way. (*gets into bed with clothes on*) Now go to sleep and behave yourself; it's most one o'clock!

(MRS. TOMPKINS *stops groaning;* TOMPKINS *snores*

Mrs. T. (*groans*) Oh, the pain is worse! You'll have to get up. That ginger won't do, it only makes me sicker-r! O-o-o-o-h! I'm—so—s-i-c-k! Jeremiah! Well, if he ain't asleep! (*shakes him*) Jeremiah!

Tomp. Wh-what now?

Mrs. T. It makes me worse. Get up and get me something else. (*groans*

Tomp. Sarah Jane, do you mean to tell me that colic wasn't knocked into the middle of next July by that dose!

Mrs. T. It's worse than ever. Please do get up! (*groans*

Tomp. Oh, I'll get up, but this matter will be investigated to-morrow! We'll see if it takes a whole drug store to cure a simple colic, or whether you are revenging yourself on me. What do you want now?

Mrs. T. I must have some peppermint to settle my stomach. You'll find it——

Tomp. (*angry*) Down stairs, of course! Just where we never use it! I'll make a change in this house to-morrow or know the reason why! (*business of getting up as before, etc.*) Well, here is your dodgasted peppermint! Don't let me hear anything more about colic to-night. You've probably stuffed yourself with fruit. Let this be a solemn warning to you.

(*gets in bed; sleeps and snores*

Mrs. T. (*groaning worse than ever; calls quickly*) Jeremiah! Jeremiah! Jeremiah!

Tomp. (*sitting up quick*) What? What?

Mrs. T. O-o-o-h! I'm—so—sick!

Tomp. Sarah Jane, I've borne a great deal from you for the sake of our child, but don't drive me to the limit. What's the matter now?

Mrs. T. (*groans*) It's the colic!

Tomp. What! The same colic?

Mrs. T. Y-yes.

Tomp. It can't be, no one ever heard of such a case! That colic was cured fifteen minutes ago.

Mrs. T. Well, this is a new one, then, and I've got to have help right away. Get up, Jeremiah, I'm so sick!

Tomp. (*business of getting up, etc., as before*) Well, what do you want now?

Mrs. T. You must get me some mustard. You'll find it in a tin box——

Tomp. Down stairs!

Mrs. T. Y-yes.

Tomp. Of course! It's a wonder you don't keep it in the barn! If I live to see another day I'll cover this bedroom with ginger, peppermint and mustard a foot deep.

(*exit,* L. 2 E.

Re-enter, TOMPKINS, L. 2 E.

Mrs. T. Do you think you can make a mustard plaster?

Tomp. Certainly. You wet the mustard, spread it on an old red flannel undershirt and the job is done. I've made a million of them.

Mrs. T. But you must mix in half flour.

Tomp. Is the flour down stairs?

Mrs. T. Y-yes.

Tomp. Sarah Jane, the worm is getting ready to turn. Look out when he does. After to-night we'll see if all the

flour in the house has got to be kept down stairs to please some whim of yours. (*goes down stairs without the light; outside*) Confound it, where is that dodgasted flour anyway? (*calls*) Sarah Jane, where in the devil is the flour?

Mrs. T. In the pantry, dear. Hurry up! I'm so sick!

Tomp. (*outside*) In the pantry, dear! (*falls over chair; racket with dishes*) Condemn the confounded, dodgasted luck! I've skinned my shins all over!

Re-enters, L. 2. E.

—If you want any flour you can get it yourself!

Mrs. T. Why didn't you take the light?

Tomp. Confound the light! I'll mix the stuff without any flour. It will do more good—it will only be the stronger.

Mixes the mustard, gets old shirt out of stand drawer, makes plaster; gives it to MRS. TOMPKINS, *and turns light down; gets in bed.*

—If you don't get better soon I'll ring the telephone for an ambulance and send you to the hospital. It might be that you are going insane.

Lies down and snores. MRS. TOMPKINS *soon begins to groan and sits up in bed.*

Mrs. T. O-o-o-o-h! I'm so sick! I'll have to have Jeremiah get up and do something more. (*groans*) I'll surely die if I don't get help soon. (*groans*) Jeremiah! (*shakes him*) Jeremiah! Jeremiah! (TOMPKINS *snores louder*) No use, no use! O-o-o-o-h! If I only had Dr. Pillbags here. O-o-o-o-h! If I could reach the telephone I'd call him. O-o-o-o-h! I'm so sick! but I'll try it. (*telephone rings and calls doctor*) Oh, I'm so sick! (*groans*) Doctor! O-o-o-o-h! Doctor! Come quick! Oh, I'm so sick! (*listens*) What? I'm sick with the billious colic! (*groans*) Come quick, come right up stairs! (*drops phone*) Oh, dear, I wish the doctor would come. (*groans*) How can Jeremiah sleep so sound while he knows I'm suffering so much? (*groans*) I'm so sick! (*noise below*) Is that you, doctor?

Dr. Pillbags. (*below*) Yes.

Mrs. T. Well, come right up! (*groans*) I'm so sick!

Enter, DR. PILLBAGS, L. 2 E. *Turns up light.*

Dr. P. (*stands at bedside*) You appear in very much distress; let me see your tongue.

Mrs. T. Oh, doctor, it's not my tongue, it's my stomach!

Dr. P. What seems to be the matter?

Mrs. T. O-o-o-o-h! It's an attack of billious colic! (*groans*) I'm so sick! Give me something quick, doctor! (*groans*

Dr. P. (*takes bottle out of pillbags, goes to stand, makes powder, gets glass of water*) Here is something that will give you relief. (*gives powder*

Mrs. T. (*looking at it*) What is it, doctor?

Dr. P. It's only an emetic, perfectly harmless! You'll feel better after taking it.

Mrs. T. (*looks at powder, shudders*) Oh, I'm so sick!

Dr. P. Well, take your medicine.

Mrs. T. I know it's nasty. (*shudders, takes medicine, wry face, shudders*) Oh, that's—so—n-a-s-t-y! (*groans*) Oh, I'm—so—sick!

Dr. P. You'll be better presently. Take a drink of water.

Mrs. T. (*takes a drink*) Um-um-um-wuk! (*spurts water out*) Oh, I'm so sick! Doctor, give me something to settle my stomach. (*groans*

Dr. P. You'll be all right now. Here is a powder you can take in ten minutes and I'll leave you one to take in the morning, You'll be all right then; if not, just call me up. (*exit*, L. 2 E.

Mrs. T. Oh, such nasty medicine! But I'm feeling easier. (TOMPKINS *snores*) How can Jeremiah sleep so sound? I don't believe a cyclone would wake him up now. I'm so much easier, I'll just try to sleep.

Lies down and is soon snoring as loud as JEREMIAH. *Lights up for morning.*

Tomp. (*waking, yawns*) Ahem! Well, if the sun ain't shining! (*clock strikes nine*) Nine o'clock, Jerusalem! I had ought to been to the office three hours ago. That dodgasted colic of Sarah Jane's is responsible for this! (*shakes her*) Sarah Jane! Sarah Jane! There is no use trying to waken a woman when sleep and colic get a

square hold of her! (*shakes her*) Sarah Jane! (*very loud*) Sarah Jane! (*she sits up quickly*

Mrs. T. What, dear, have you got the colic?

Tomp. (*gets out of bed*) Don't you mention colic to me again for six months. Do you know what time of day it is? Well, it's nine o'clock! If it had not been for your dodgasted colic I might have had some sleep last night, so that I could have got up early.

Mrs. T. It's too bad, dear, that you didn't get any sleep, but I feel better this morning.

Tomp. Of course you are better. I don't claim to know more than all other people on earth put together, but I do know just what to do for billious colic. Sarah Jane, I saved your life last night, and I hope you feel a proper gratitude.

Mrs. T. Yes, you slept like a log while I had to call Dr. Pillbags through the telephone. He came and gave me some medicine that cured me and you never knew a thing about it.

Tomp. Sarah Jane! Are you going crazy?

Mrs. T. No, but what I tell you is a fact as you can ascertain by calling at the doctor's office this morning and settling the bill.

Tomp. Sarah Jane! Do you claim that after all I done for you last night with ginger, peppermint and mustard, that *I* didn't cure that colic?

Mrs. T. Yes, dear!

Tomp. Then I'll apply for a divorce at once. If I have to be poked in the ribs every night and kept awake and deprived of my rest on account of that infernal colic of yours, I'll not live with you. I'll cure your colic somehow!

Starts off, L.; *meets* DR. PILLBAGS, *who enters,* L.

Dr. P. Good morning, Tompkins! How is Mrs. Tompkins this morning?

Mrs. T. Oh, I'm well enough this morning. Doctor, you saved my life last night, and I am very grateful. But I can't convince Jeremiah that you was here at all.

Dr. P. I observed that he was sleeping very soundly.

Tomp. Do you mean to tell me, Dr. Pillbags, that a man could enter my sleeping apartments and I not be aware of the fact.

Dr. P. Most assuredly, Mr. Tompkins.

Tomp. Well, you'll have to convince me of the fact before I'll believe it.

Dr. P. Here is your bill, sir! (*gives paper*

Tomp. (*reading*) "Jeremiah Tompkins, Dr., to professional call on Mrs. Tompkins after midnight, five dollars. To administering an emitic, one dollar; to other medicine, one dollar; to advice, fifty cents:—total, seven dollars and a half." Ahem! Well, I guess you was here! Call at the office at one o'clock and I'll settle the bill. And now, Sarah Jane, I want it understood that you never trouble me again with your "Midnight Colic."

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ACT II.—Susan's explanation.—"Slang Debolishers Union"—"You'd better begin at home!"—A widower—"Good land! if I could not get something better than a widower, I wouldn't feel fit to soar to the land of milk and honey!"—Sam Sly, Polly's lover, who is a widower.—"If he does not propose, *I* will!"—Susan and Sam Sly.—Love scene between Polly and Sly, which Susan discovers. Her anger, and fall.—Susan and Sly loose their wigs.

ACT III.—Joshua Pratt.—Susan's fear of men.—"Help! help!" Discovers Joshua—Ridiculous love scene between Susan and Joshua. "There's nothing half so sweet in life, as love's young dream."—Rats. "Help! thieves!"—"It might run up my leg!"—The rescue—Susan announces her engagement and determination to go home and get married.—The departure.

ACT IV.—Home of Susan Tabitha—Sallie—Discovery of Joshua's poverty--Susan's anger and disappointment--"Can we get up?"-Susan cuffs Joshua's ears—Dinner—"Can we eat dinner?"—Susan relates her experience to Sallie—Telegram—Arrival and cool reception of Charles Westfield and wife—Joshua sleeps—Susan knocks over his chair, pulls his hair—A bank check—Susan's promise.—Happy ending.

Ames' Plays---Continued.

NO.	FARCES CONTINUED.	M	F
72	Deuce is in Him	5	1
1[illegible]	D[illegible]l Dress it	4	3
42	Domestic Felicity	1	1
1[illegible]	Dutch Prize Fighter	3	0
2[illegible]	Dutchess vs. Nigger	3	0
18[illegible]	Eh? What Did You Say	3	1
218	Everybody Astonished	4	0
2[illegible]	Fooling with the Wrong Man	2	1
233	Freezing a Mother-in-Law	2	1
131	Fun in a Post Office	4	2
184	Family Discipline	0	1
20[illegible]	Goose with the Golden Eggs	5	3
13	Give Me My Wife	3	3
6[illegible]	Ham, the Dutch J. P.	3	1
11[illegible]	Hash	4	2
12[illegible]	H. M. S. Plum	1	1
103	How Sister Paxey got her Child Baptized	2	1
50	How he has Own Way	1	3
14[illegible]	How He Popped the Quest'n	1	1
74	How to Tame Mother-in-Law	4	2
[illegible]5	How're you Getting	5	2
47	In the Wrong Box	3	0
[illegible]5	In the Wrong Clothes	5	3
11	John Smith	5	3
99	Jumbo Jum	4	3
82	Killing Time	1	1
182	Kitty's Wedding Cake	1	3
127	Lick Skillet Wedding	2	2
228	Loudenbush's Little Surprise	3	0
1[illegible]	Lodgings for Two	3	0
139	Matrimonial Bliss	1	1
2[illegible]	Mater vs. a Mother in Law	2	2
235	More Burglars than one	4	3
69	Mother's Darling	6	1
1	Mr. and Mrs. Pringle	7	4
158	Mr Hudson's Tiger Hunt	1	1
23	My Heart's in Highlands	4	3
2[illegible]	My Precious Betsey	4	4
2[illegible]	My Turn Next	4	3
2	Mr. Wife's Relations	4	4
1[illegible]	My Boy and Now-a-Days	0	1
4	Oh dunce	1	2
[illegible]	On the Sly	3	2
57	Paddy Miles' Boy	5	2
217	Peter's Washing Machine	4	1
16[illegible]	Persecuted Dutchman	6	3
1[illegible]	Poor Pillody	2	3
1[illegible]	Quiet Family	4	4
1[illegible]	Rag Diamond	4	3
180	Rattles	2	0
18[illegible]	Scrapes	1	1
1[illegible]	Swell Circle of Period	0	5
1[illegible]	S. H. A. M. Pinafore	3	3
2[illegible]	Somebody's Nobody	3	2
[illegible]	Sour Grapes	4	2
1[illegible]	Taking the Census	1	1
40	That Mysterious Bride	2	2
18[illegible]	The Newly-wed Closet	5	2
101	The Circle	4	2
101	The Coming Man	3	1
137	Turn It Out	3	2
[illegible]	The Yankee Professor	4	0
54	The Two T. J's	4	2

NO.		M	F
28	Thirty-three Next Birthday	4	2
142	Tit for Tat	2	1
213	Vermont Wool Dealer	5	3
151	Wanted a Husband	2	1
5	When Women Weep	3	2
56	Wooing Under Difficulties	5	3
70	Which will he Marry	2	8
135	Widower's Trials	4	5
147	Waking Him Up	1	2
155	Why they Joined the Rebeccas	0	4
111	Yankee Duelist	3	1
157	Yankee Peddler	7	3

ETHIOPIAN FARCES.

201	Academy of Stars	6	0
15	An Unhappy Pair	1	1
172	Black Shoemaker	4	2
98	Black Statue	4	2
222	Colored Senators	3	0
214	Chops	3	0
145	Cuff's Luck	2	1
130	Crimps Trip	5	0
27	Fetter Lane to Gravesend	2	0
230	Hamlet the Dainty	6	1
153	Haunted House	2	0
24	Handy Andy	2	0
225	Hypocondriac The	2	0
77	Joe's Visit	2	1
88	Mischievous Nigger	4	2
138	Musical Darkey	2	0
90	No Cure No Pay	3	1
61	Not as Deaf as He Seems	3	0
234	Old Dad's Cabin	2	1
140	Old Pompey	1	1
109	Other People's Children	3	2
154	Pomp's Pranks	2	0
177	Quarrelsome Servants	3	0
96	Rooms to Let	2	1
107	School	5	0
133	Seeing Bosting	3	0
179	Sham Doctor	3	3
94	10,000 Years Ago	3	0
25	Sport with a Sportsman	2	0
92	Stage Struck Darkey	2	1
10	Stocks Up, Stocks Down	2	0
61	That Boy Sam	3	1
122	The Select School	5	0
118	The Popcorn Man	3	1
6	The Studio	3	0
108	Those Awful Boys	5	0
4	Twain's Dodging	3	1
197	Tricks	5	2
198	Uncle Jeff	5	2
170	U. S. Mail	2	2
216	Vice Versa	3	1
216	Villikens and Dinah	4	1
210	Virginia Mummy	6	1
203	Who Stole the Chickens	1	1
209	William Tell	4	0
196	Wig Maker and His Servants	3	0

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17	Hints on Elocution	
130	Hints to Amateurs	

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250. Festival of Days. A [illegible] representing the memorial day of the year [illegible] ment, as it is easily produced, requiring no [illegible] hour.

251. Millie, the Quadroon; or, Out of Bondage. A Drama in 5 acts, by Lizzie M. Elwyn. [illegible] This drama is replete with [illegible] and sadness are well combined [illegible] representing scenes in the South before slavery was abolished. [illegible] Time of production, 2 hours.

252. That Awful Carpet-Bag. An original farce in [illegible] H. Gibson. 3 males, 3 females. [illegible] curiosity gets them into embarrassing [illegible] 30 minutes.

253. The Best Cure. An [illegible] farce in [illegible] male, 1 female—exceedingly funny farce. A darkey who [illegible] ness—the "cure" will be appreciated by all lovers of fun. Time, 20 minutes.

254. Dot, the Miner's Daughter; or, One Glass of Wine. A temperance drama, in [illegible] Lizzie M. Elwyn, author of "Millie, the Quadroon." 9 males, 5 females. This is the most popular temperance play written since "Ten Nights in a Bar-room" and "Curse of the Tide" was published. Characters all equally good. [illegible] Ebony and Hazzubah, who are funny enough to make a cat laugh, are introduced in such a manner as to cause a perfect roar. Costumes, modern. Time, 2 hours.

255. Gertie's Vindication. A domestic drama, in [illegible] 3 males, 3 females. A most [illegible] ing, "Honesty is the best policy." Jarvis, the negro, and Keziah, the Irish servant, are both exceedingly good and will keep an audience convulsed with laughter. Costumes, modern. Time, one and one-half hours.

256. Midnight Colic. A sketch in one scene, by D. L. Ayres. 2 males, 1 female. A most laughable sketch that will please every one. Time of production, thirty minutes.

257. Caught in the Act. Comedy in 3 acts, by Newton Chisnell. 7 males, 3 females. This comedy is a favorite [illegible] and will take well with amateurs. It is full of fun, [illegible] beginning to end. Time of production is about 2 hours.

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